

**Town of Groton  
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes  
May 4, 2010  
7:00pm**

**In Attendance: Miles Sinclair, Kyle Andrews, Christina McClay, Pamela Hamel (AA)**

**Audience Members Present**

Miles called the meeting to order at 7:02pm and read the appointments and announcements. The following amendment to the April 27 Selectmen's Meeting minutes was proposed:

- Page 1: paragraph 2 under Old Business add **or Town Meeting** to the last sentence in the paragraph

**Miles made a motion to amend the minutes as proposed, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Miles made a motion to accept the minutes as amended, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Dave Godbout, President of the Spectacle Pond Association (SPA) addressed the Board. Mr. Godbout apologized for the confusion over the SPA Emergency Action Plan. He said the Association will work with the necessary Town Officials to work it out. The Emergency Action Plan needs to be finalized by May 28. Mike Lemieux is working with Paul Hatch from the Department of Safety, Emergency Management Division to arrange a meeting with the necessary State and local officials to discuss the plan. Mr. Godbout then gave a brief update on Spectacle Pond including short term threats (the dam), long term threats (the dike) and the results if the Dam Bureau breached the dam. The State is requiring that the dam be upgraded to meet the 100 year flood requirement. In phases 1 and 2 of their Preservation Project, the SPA is looking to construct a new spillway and cap the dam which will satisfy that requirement. They are looking to have this done by November 2010. The final phase of the project is to reconstruct the dike, with a goal of completing this phase in November of 2011.

The Board received a letter from Groton Historical Society (GHS) President Roland Bixby concerning the proposed Veteran's Monument. Although the Board believes they had sufficiently addressed this issue last week, they also feel that they should respond to the letter to reaffirm their position and include a copy of last week's minutes. The letter will also note that all correspondence to the Board should be sent to the Selectmen's Office. **Miles made a motion to draft a letter to Mr. Bixby, note that all correspondence directed to the Board should be sent to their office, include a copy of last week's minutes and copy it to the GHS's PO Box, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

In an email from Groton Historical Society member Steve Lindsey, he states that both Bob Whitmore and Dave Demers have seen the base of the monument and they do not believe the stone needs to be fastened to the cement base. The Board is not comfortable with this response. **Miles made a motion to ask an appropriate GHS representative to attend a Selectmen's meeting as soon as able to address this issue, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

The Board discussed their position on speaking with the media. They will need to be very clear on whether or not they are representing a personal opinion or an official position of the Board. No Board

member is obligated to speak with the media, and they can choose to refer them to the Administrative Assistant.

At this year's Town Election several candidates received one write-in vote for the vacant Zoning Board positions. On Wednesday, May 12 at noon, per RSA 669:36, the winners of these positions will be determined by lot by the Town Clerk in the presence of the candidates who are tied if, upon notice from the Clerk, they elect to be present.

The New Hampshire Fish and Game department directed Pam to speak with Officer Jim Kneeland concerning the matter of who has jurisdiction of the Spectacle Pond Boat Landing. Officer Kneeland said the road and boat landing were part of the Road to Public Waters Program. They were put in by the State, and then given to the town in the '40s or '50s with the understanding that the Town would maintain them. If at any time the Town defaulted on the agreement by not maintaining the property, the State could take it back. He reported that at this time the Town has jurisdiction. They cannot prohibit use but they can post appropriate parking signage. Christina asked that they get some documentation of the Road to Public Waters Program to make sure there are no other restrictions they need to be aware of. Chuck Stata suggested that a long range plan to deal with this issue might be to acquire the piece of property west of the landing for parking. Mike Brogna feels the major issue is the property owners on the Hebron side of the pond accessing their property via the boat landing only. Mike Lemieux asked the Board to look into the parking problems by Sculptured Rocks. At one time there were No Parking signs posted along the road but they are no longer there. **Miles made a motion to look into the possibility of adopting a parking ordinance to address the boat landing and any other parking issues, and table this for now, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

The Board reviewed the Petition to Intervene on the application of Site and Facility for Groton Wind LLC. **Christina made a motion to contact the Attorney and ask her to change the word court to committee, and proceed with filing the Petition, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

The Board read 2 complaints received from Rumney residents concerning the proposed Groton Wind Project. **Miles made a motion to draft a form letter to be used in all cases when they receive these types of complaints, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Police Chief Dickerson had previously indicated that the area Chiefs were looking to get out of the Central New Hampshire Special Operations Unit (CNHSOU) and form a local SOU. They now think it will be at least a year before a local SOU is formed. He recommends that the Town stay with CNHSOU for this year. **Kyle made a motion to stay with the CNHSOU and send the \$2,600 annual payment, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Miles made a motion to sign the building permit for Parris, Map 1 Lot 98-1, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

The Board had a question about the Library expenditure on the MS-5. The Town allocated \$2,000 for the Library for 2009. However, this amount does not show under the Library category on the MS-5. Christina verified with Pam that the Library had received their allocation. **Kyle made a motion to table this until next week, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.** Pam will contact the Town's Auditor for clarification on this issue.

The Board reviewed the All-Ways Accessible contract renewal form. There are a few changes from last year's contract. **Kyle made a motion to table this until these changes are clarified, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Kyle made a motion to sign the building permit for Jeramy and Christina McClay, Map 2 Lot 14, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted, Christina abstaining.**

The Board reviewed two Avitar abatement recommendations for Adams and Records. **Christina made a motion to accept the two abatement recommendations put forth by Avitar, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.** Total abatement amount including interest is \$842.64.

Due to the recent accident on Province Road Miles would like the Board to consider having any potentially hazardous trees removed, even those that are not within the Town's right of way (ROW) but are within striking distance of Town roads. John Faucher has said he is willing to go around with the Road Agent to identify which trees pose a hazard. The Board would then send letters to property owners letting them know what they are planning to do. Christina feels it is a good idea but perhaps it would be best that while the trees are being identified the Board do some research about the Town's authority to cut trees that are not in the ROW and any other issues associated with this. Miles agreed to go along all town roads in the ROW and mark some trees. The Board will go from there. Mike Brogna suggested contacting Gordon Coursey for his assistance.

The Board set up a tentative work session with the Road Agent for Monday, May 17 at 5pm to tour Town roads and discuss any proposed work.

**Miles made a motion to adjourn at 9:00pm, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Pamela Hamel  
Administrative Assistant